

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



March 18, 1996

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO.
I-16-96

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

REASON FOR TRANSMITTAL

- ☐ State Law Change
- ☒ Federal Law Change
- ☐ Court Order or Settlement Agreement
- ☐ Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- ☐ Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT OF ALIEN REGISTRATION RECEIPT CARD (I-151)
IMPACT ON ELIGIBILITY FOR AFDC AND FOOD STAMP PROGRAMS

Background

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) is conducting a program to replace green cards (Form I-151) issued prior to 1979 with a new counterfeit-resistant card, the I-551. On two separate occasions, INS extended the replacement period and validity of the I-151, and it is currently due to expire on March 20, 1996.

The I-151 card was issued to aliens prior to 1979. According to INS, holders of the I-151 cards (even though expired) are lawful permanent resident aliens whose immigration status will continue to be shown on the Alien Status Verification Index (ASVI) in the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement (SAVE) system. The INS has requested that counties urge the holders of the old I-151 cards to apply for the new green cards as soon as possible. Those wishing to apply for a new card can call the INS Toll-free number 1-800-755-0777. There is a fee for replacement of the I-151, but a fee waiver is possible based on proven financial hardship. Also, applicants will be given a receipt at the time application for an I-551 is made in an INS office, which can be used for verification.

AFDC and Food Stamp Programs

For AFDC and Food Stamp purposes, the validity of the I-151 is not affected by the INS replacement program, and will continue to be an acceptable document. There should be no delay in the individual's benefits and/or program eligibility during the replacement of his/her I-151 card. Counties should continue to use the SAVE procedures to verify the status of any alien applicant/recipient.

If you have any Food Stamp questions, please contact Alan Rowe of the Food Stamp Program Bureau at (916) 653-5208. For AFDC questions, please contact Alison Garcia of the AFDC Policy Implementation Bureau at (916) 654-0989.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Wagstaff".

BRUCE WAGSTAFF
Deputy Director
Welfare Programs Division